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Daily News (New York, New York) · Wed, Apr 29, 1998 · Page 44
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Forsyth on 'Phantom' Case

NEW MUSICAL — Best-selling novelist Frederick Forsyth will pen the script for Andrew Lloyd Webber's next musical, a sequel to his worldwide smash "The Phantom of the Opera."

Forsyth, whose books include "The Day of Jackal" and "Icon," will spend the next several months outlining a plot for the show, which will be set in New York at the Metropolitan Opera.

Lloyd Webber already has written several songs for "Phantom II," including "The Heart Is Slow to Learn," which was performed by Kiri te Kanawa at the composer's 50th birthday concert in London last month.

Lloyd Webber hopes to open "Phantom II" either on Broadway or in London's West End sometime in 1999..

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Jul 2, 2025

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